From: Aaron Patterson
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 10:43am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern:

I am opposed to the proposed settlement in the Microsoft antitrust trial. I feel that the current proposed settlement does not fully redress the actions committed by Microsoft in the past, nor inhibit their ability to commit similar actions in the future.

Microsoft was found guilty of antitrust violations for using monopoly power to extend their influence into other markets. Leaving Microsoft intact with windows, office, internet explorer, and the ability to continue bundling, continue unfair pricing, and continue creating undocumented APIs in the name of security will not bring competition into these markets. Creating a settlement that relies on further protracted litigation to correct future transgressions will not provide just, expedient results.

If a person or organization is able to commit illegal acts, benefit from those acts and then receive as a "punishment" instructions that they cannot commit those acts again, they have still benefited from their illegal acts. That is not justice, not for the victims of their abuses and not for the American people in general.

While the Court's desire that a settlement be reached is well-intentioned, it is wrong to reach an unjust settlement just for settlement's sake. A wrong that is not corrected is compounded. Sincerely,

Aaron Patterson 130 W Gilman Apt 1 Madison WI 53703